

CSA Staff Notice 51-307 Status of Proposed Continuous Disclosure Rule

Introduction

On June 20, 2003, the CSA published for comment a revised version of National Instrument 51-102 *Continuous Disclosure Obligations*. NI 51-102 would replace existing continuous disclosure obligations of reporting issuers, other than investment funds. The CSA are currently considering the public comment on NI 51-102 and incorporating changes as appropriate. No changes are expected to the filing deadlines as published in the June, 2003 version of NI 51-102. However, it is expected that either the board of directors or the audit committee will be permitted to approve the interim financial statements. Also, the definition of *venture issuer* is expected to change slightly to replace the list of exchanges in the United States with a reference to exchanges registered as national securities exchanges under section 6 of the 1934 Act in the United States.

Expected application of NI 51-102

We are issuing this notice to assist reporting issuers and their advisers in planning and scheduling directors' and securityholders' meetings and their continuous disclosure for the next fiscal year. This notice replaces CSA Staff Notice 51-306, which is withdrawn.

Subject to receiving all necessary commission and ministerial approvals, staff anticipate the NI 51-102 requirements for

- *financial statements, management discussion and analysis (MD&A) and annual information forms* will apply for financial years beginning on or after January 1, 2004; as a result, the first interim financial statements and MD&A that will be required to comply with the requirements of NI 51-102, including the new filing deadlines for non-venture issuers, will be for first quarters ending on or after March 31, 2004;
- *proxy solicitation and information circulars* will apply as of June 1, 2004; and
- *business acquisition reports* will apply for significant acquisitions if the initial legally binding agreement was entered into on or after March 30, 2004.

Questions

Please refer your questions to any of the following people:

British Columbia Securities Commission

Rosann Youck, Senior Legal Counsel (604) 899-6656
Carla-Marie Hait, Chief Accountant (604) 899-6726
Michael Moretto, Associate Chief Accountant (604) 899-6767
You may also call 1-800-373-6393 from B.C. and Alberta.

Alberta Securities Commission

Mavis Legg, Manager, Securities Analysis (403) 297-2663
Karen Wiwchar, Senior Legal Counsel (403) 297-4732

Manitoba Securities Commission

Bob Bouchard, Director, Corporate Finance (204) 945-2555

Nova Scotia Securities Commission

Bill Slattery, Deputy Director, Corporate Finance and Administration (902) 424-7355

Ontario Securities Commission

Joanne Peters, Senior Legal Counsel (416) 593-8134

Irene Tsatsos, Senior Accountant (416) 593-8223

Commission des valeurs mobilières du Québec

Rosetta Gagliardi, Conseillère en réglementation (514) 940-2199 ext. 4554

Saskatchewan Financial Services Commission – Securities Division

Ian McIntosh, Deputy Director, Corporate Finance (306) 787-5867

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